

416 Rec'd PCTO 18 FEB 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Sylvain ORENGA

U.S. National Stage of PCT/FR98/01717

Filed: February 18, 2000

Docket No.: 105454

For: CULTURE AND IDENTIFICATION MEDIA SPECIFIC OF DIFFERENT SPECIES  
OF CANDIDA AND ANALYSIS METHODSPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) [Medium for the culturing and specific identification of yeasts,  
Culture medium for the specific identification and/or differentiation of *Candida albicans* and  
*Candida tropicalis* yeast, comprising a chromogenic or flourigenic substrate which can be  
hydrolyzed by an enzyme of the hexosaminidase family, characterized in that the medium also  
comprises at least one compound which selectively inhibits the hexosaminidase activity of *c*  
*tropicalis*.

Claim 4, line 1, change "Claims 1 to 3" to --Claim 1--

Claim 5, line 1, change "Claims 1 to 4" to --Claim 1--

Claim 6, line 1, change "Claims 1 to 5" to --Claim 1--

Claim 8, line 1, change "any of the preceding claims" to --Claim 1--

Claim 10, line 1, change "Claims 1 to 9" to --Claim 1--

Claim 11, line 1, change "Claims 9 and 10" to --Claim 9--

Claim 12, line 1, change "Claims 10 and 12" to --Claim 10--

13. (Amended) [Medium for the detection and specific identification of yeasts,  
Medium for the specific identification and/or differentiation of *candida albicans* and *Candida*  
*tropicalis* yeasts, characterized in that it comprises two substrates, a first chromogenic or  
fluorogenic substrate which can be hydrolyzed by an enzyme from the hexosaminidase family,